(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 20 November 2003 (20.11.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2003/096289 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G07F 11/14,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/ZA2003/000047

(22) International Filing Date: 9 April 2003 (09.04.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

02/2792 02/6565

10 April 2002 (10.04.2002) ZA 16 August 2002 (16.08.2002) ZA

(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: LANZ, Klaus, Heinrich [CH/ZA]; 8 Kestrel Park, Longclaw Drive, 7441 Montague Gardens (ZA).

(74) Agent: BACON, Brian; Brian Bacon & Associates, 2nd floor, Mariendahl House, Newlands on Main, Main Road, 7700 Newlands (ZA).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,

CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

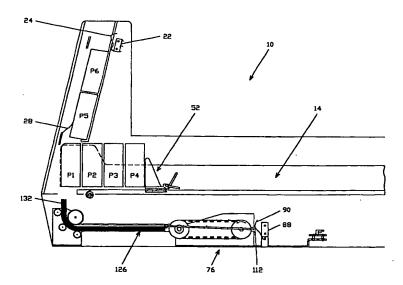
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 29 April 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

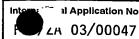
(54) Title: DISPENSERS PARTICULARLY, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, FOR CIGARETTE PACKETS



(57) Abstract: A dispenser (10) for dispensing packets particularly, but not exclusively cigarette packets, is disclosed. The dispenser (10) comprises a magazine (14) for holding a plurality of packets (P1, P2, P3, P4) standing in an upright position and a column (12) for dispensing the packets. A pressure plate (52) is provided for pushing the plurality of packets towards a dispensing end of the magazine (14). The dispenser (10) also comprises a dispensing mechanism (76) for driving a coil spring (126) which pushes the first packet (P1) of the plurality of packets in the magazine (14) upwardly into the column (12) and causes the uppermost packet (P6) within the column (12) to be dispensed.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G07F11/14 G07F11/42 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 **G07F** Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. US 4 962 867 A (FICKEN LEONARD A ET AL) Α 1-15 16 October 1990 (1990-10-16) abstract column 1, line 37 - line 48 column 1, line 58 -column 2, line 20 column 3, line 44 - line 67 column 4, line 12 - line 18 column 4, line 28 - line 41 column 5, line 65 -column 6, line 28 figures 1-4,9 Α DE 198 46 791 A (HANS HERMANN TRAUTWEIN SB 1 - 15TECH) 13 April 2000 (2000-04-13) column 1, line 19 - line 66 column 2, line 19 - line 39 column 3, line 15 - line 37 figures 1,7 X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the International search report 17/03/2004 9 March 2004

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,

Authorized officer

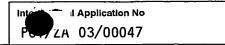
Bassanini, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



	<u> </u>	100/ Ln U3/0004/
C.(Continu	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Α	DE 196 04 561 A (SCHINDLER GERNOT) 14 August 1997 (1997-08-14) abstract column 1, line 50 -column 2, line 31 column 3, line 2 - line 8 column 3, line 20 - line 39 column 4, line 6 - line 45 column 4, line 65 -column 5, line 44 figure 2	1-15
Α	GB 467 584 A (COCA COLA CO;LOUIS HUNTINGTON MORIN) 21 June 1937 (1937-06-21) page 1, column 1, line 22 - line 35 page 3, column 1, line 45 -column 2, line 1 page 4, column 2, line 109 - line 117 page 6, column 1, line 12 - line 37 figures 1,5,10	1-15
A	WO 99 04375 A (ROTHMANS OF PALL MALL ;WATTS GRAHAM RICHARD (AU)) 28 January 1999 (1999-01-28) the whole document	1-15

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 4962867	Α	16-10-1990	NONE		
DE 19846791	А	13-04-2000	DE WO EP US	19846791 A1 0022584 A1 1119830 A1 6604652 B1	13-04-2000 20-04-2000 01-08-2001 12-08-2003
DE 19604561	Α	14-08-1997	DE	19604561 A1	14-08-1997
GB 467584	Α	21-06-1937	NONE		
WO 9904375	A	28-01-1999	AU AU WO	745632 B2 8201498 A 9904375 A1	28-03-2002 10-02-1999 28-01-1999